

PICKS GOV. HUGHES

Page Declares President Not Against Executive.

VISITS THE WHITE HOUSE

New York State Senator Declares Roosevelt Will Not Antagonize Albany Man if Taft Falls—Thinks Empire State Will Instruct for Governor—Helped by Declaration.

The thorough shifting of political stage agency which has taken place in the last three days, brought the Hughes Presidential candidacy into more prominent view yesterday.

In the opinion of State Senator Alfred R. Page, of New York, this fact is to be attributed directly to the reiterated declaration of President Roosevelt that he will not be a candidate to succeed himself in 1908.

Mr. Page called at the White House yesterday morning, and after a half hour talk with the President, spoke freely to the reporters of the candidacy of Charles E. Hughes for the Presidential nomination.

The most significant remark he made was that the political situation in the Empire State has been clarified by Mr. Roosevelt's third-term announcement.

There was no other political development yesterday, but plenty of gossip. Senator Page's visit was regarded by some persons as a deliberate move for peace between the White House and Albany, but Mr. Page, while seeking to minimize the differences which have existed in these four quarters, disavowed any authority to bear a message.

Goes on "Own Hook."

He said he went to the White House "on his own hook," and not at the instance of Gov. Hughes or by virtue of any arrangement made with him. He added that his visit was most pleasant, and that he thought the President was not strongly antagonistic to the governor.

"Of course, I do not mean that the President will shut very hard for Mr. Hughes' nomination," he remarked, "but if Mr. Taft should fail, I cannot believe that the President would feel any disappointment over the nomination of Gov. Hughes."

"Do you look for a Hughes delegation from New York to the national convention?"

"I do. There is no doubt that New York is for him."

"An instructive delegation?"

"Yes, if the people want it. New York delegates are not always instructed, and it was held in one national convention that instructions given by Congress district conventions did not hold. But it won't make any difference; the New York delegation will vote for Hughes just the same."

President Not Hostile.

"Did the President express any hostility to the governor or his candidacy?"

"None at all. I do not consider that there is a serious breach between them."

"What about claims that New York would be for Taft as second choice?"

"I never was much on playing party horses; I prefer to put my money on the winner and stay with him."

Active steps will now be taken, Mr. Page says, to further the Hughes candidacy, and what is done, he added, can be observed by persons who will "look in the spots where the dust is flying." In reply to a question he said this:

"The third-term statement of the President is a great help to the Hughes candidacy. There were a great many Republicans, loyal to the President as I am, who were embarrassed by uncertainty as to what the President would do. These men won't hold back any longer."

"We'll see how all these things from his letter of acceptance."

Other Developments.

There were minor developments yesterday which make it more apparent that the President's third-term declaration was caused, in part, by the Clayton resolution in Congress. An authority high in the administration said that the President wished to forestall debate on this resolution, for fear that a debate in the House or Senate on the third term question would make it appear that he had been forced to abandon an alleged candidacy to succeed himself in the Presidency.

It is quite as clear that the reported activity of Cortisyon political agents was not responsible for the third term statement, or at least that it did not affect the President's action materially.

It is known now that the so-called Cortisyon plot did not affect the President as it appeared that certain persons would have it appear that it affected him. If Mr. Cortisyon has any idea of leaving the Cabinet neither he nor the President knows it.

The complaints made by some of the Taft partisans were listened to by the President, but the President himself has already told a number of persons that these complaints had no effect whatever upon the highly cordial relations existing between him and the Secretary of the Treasury.

SCHOOL MATTER RESTS.

No Action Taken by the Senate District Committee.

No action was taken yesterday by the Senate District Committee on the Burkett resolution concerning the schools. Not even a single visitor called.

There still seems to be a sentiment in the House that there will be introduced a resolution calling on the school board to withhold final action until Congress has had an opportunity to investigate.

Some members of the old House committee are inclined to the belief that no attempt will be made to get the matter up until after it has been seen what action will be taken by the Senate. As the session to-morrow is expected to be short, it seems improbable that anything can be done until after the holidays.

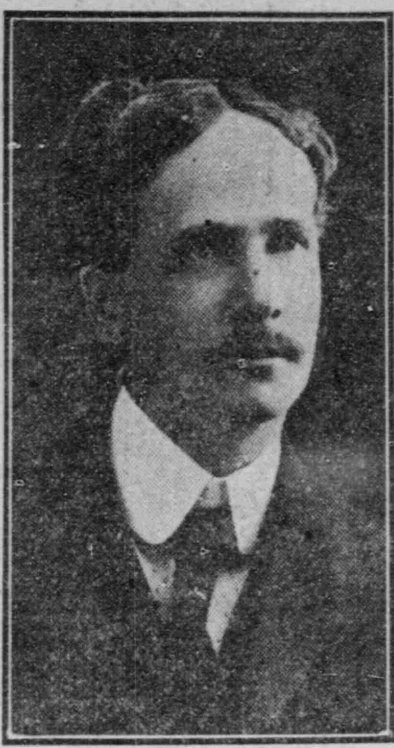
There is much speculation as to the personnel of the new Senate committee. While it has been generally understood that Senator Piles, of Washington, was slated for a place, there is still some uncertainty. Other names mentioned include those of Senators Richardson and Briggs. The general impression seems to be that Mr. Piles will be chosen, if he has not been already.

On the minority side, there has been talk of Senators Bankhead, Taylor, of Tennessee, and Johnson. As it stands now, there is one Republican vacancy and three Democratic. There is also some talk of Senator Newlands going on the committee.

In the House the general impression seems to be that the committee assignments will not be made until Thursday, although it is possible some of them may be given out at to-morrow's session.

John Sharp Williams, the minority leader, still insists that because of the larger representation of Democrats in this House, they should be given more places on the large committees.

A REAL HUSTLER.



John H. Walker, Clerk of the Senate Committee on District Affairs.

CLERK WALKER BUSY.

Bears Much of the Burden of the Senate District Committee.

Mr. John H. Walker, the clerk of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, was born in Lowell, Mass., but passed his boyhood in Concord, N. H., graduating there from the public schools. Alert and studious, Mr. Walker acquired a sound education, and in 1899 went to Utah as private secretary to the president of the Utah Agricultural College.

In the following year he came to Washington as an assistant clerk to the Senate Committee on Immigration. For four years Mr. Walker was in the clerical service of the War Department, and subsequently was private secretary to the First Deputy Commissioner of Pensions. He was appointed in 1898 to the clerkship of the Senate Committee on Pensions, of which Senator Gallinger, in 1903, became chairman of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, Mr. Walker became the clerk of this committee, which has so large a jurisdiction over the civil affairs of Washington.

The hands-on committee-room of the Senate committee at the Capitol is a busy place throughout the sessions of Congress. There is a constant stream of callers to consult with Senator Gallinger on some one of the many important public affairs in which he is conspicuous, or to make inquiry concerning the multifarious business of the District. Mr. Walker's never-failing courtesy, his wide and exact information, and the quickness and ease with which he transacts business give him an ideal qualification for this post of unusual responsibility, and he is a most valuable assistant to his hard-worked chairman.

Mr. Walker's industry is marked. He knows how to do things, and his executive capacity keeps the details of the heavy clerical work of the Senate District Committee moving without jar or friction. It is probable that few of the officials at the Capitol are personally known to so many of the residents of Washington. Mr. Walker's legal residence is in Concord, N. H. He is married and has one son.

TILLMAN TO USE PITCHFORK

South Carolinian to Tackle Issue of Certificates.

May Also Have Something to Say of Gotham Financier and John R. Walsh.

Senator Ben Tillman is going to stir up the animals again to-morrow. The South Carolina Senator has been looking up the financial situation, and will make some comment on the issuance of clearing-house certificates and the management of national banks.

He is of the opinion that the issues of clearing-house certificates by State institutions may be subject to the 10 per cent tax imposed by Federal statutes upon currency issues by State banks. The Senator is not so sure that national banks are not exceeding the rights conferred by their charters when they issue currency through the clearing-house associations.

Incidentally, the Senator will discuss the alleged mismanagement of the Mercantile National Bank of New York and pay his compliments to John R. Walsh. The Senator is of the opinion that there has been inexcusable delay in bringing Walsh to trial.

The Senator was in communication yesterday with the Comptroller of the Currency and the United States attorney of New York regarding the conditions disclosed by the failure of the Heinz bank.

NEW BILLS ALREADY LAWS.

Members of Congress Overlook Some Existing Statutes.

David Moore, whose duty it is to distribute to the various committees of the House of Representatives the bills, resolutions, and other papers referred to them, was groaning under a burden that fairly staggered him the other day. Dumping the load directed to it on the table in one of the committee rooms, he remarked:

"There's one good thing about these bills; 123 of those so far introduced at this session are laws already."

Which goes further to prove, as was first demonstrated by Representative Landis, of Indiana, in a colloquy with John Wesley Gains, of Tennessee, that even the lawmakers of the land do not know what is on the statute books.

Mr. Landis was addressing the House on the occasion referred to, and Mr. Gains, in his usual way, introduced an inquiry more or less relevant to the matter under discussion. Mr. Landis had been laying for the great "interrupter" for some time.

"I will answer the gentleman's query," he said, drawing a printed bill out of his desk, "if he introduced this bill," reading the title of the document, which was to repeal the Spanish war taxes.

"I did," Mr. Gains replied.

"I merely desire to inform the gentleman that that particular law has been on the statute books for several months," observed Mr. Landis.

The laugh that ensued effectually disposed of the Tennessee gentleman's question.

Police Seek Irvin Baker.

Irvin Baker, of 1625 North Hopkins avenue, Baltimore, Md., requested the police authorities last night to endeavor to locate his son, Irvin Baker, Jr., eighteen years of age, who has been missing from his home since Thursday. The father told the police that on that day his son was seen walking along the railroad tracks in the direction of this city, in company with two companions, named Joseph Burns, aged seventeen, and Charles McDendord, aged fifteen.

TALK OVER FINANCE

House Subcommittee Holds Three-hour Session

NO CONCLUSION REACHED

John Sharp Williams Entertains Minority Members at Dinner—Sentiment Seems to Favor Needham Financial Legislation at This Session, May Originate in the Senate.

The members of the subcommittee of the House Committee on Banking and Finance met yesterday morning and put in about three hours discussing the possibility of getting a suitable bill framed up for presentation to Congress, but the session was adjourned until after the holidays, and nothing material was accomplished.

The members of the minority side of the committee were entertained last night at dinner by John Sharp Williams, the minority leader of the House, and it is understood that these members carefully canvassed the question, but did not arrive at any conclusion.

At the meeting yesterday morning, which was attended by Chairman Fowler, and the other members, Representatives Prince, Calderhead, Gillespie, and Lewis, the general sentiment seemed to be that there should be both temporary and permanent legislation at this session, but no plan was evolved, so far as could be learned.

May Come from Senate.

When Representative Burton was put on the committee, it was supposed to be with the understanding that he would be a member of this subcommittee, because of the fact that Chairman Fowler's views did not exactly coincide with those of Speaker Cannon and the administration.

Mr. Burton was expected to act as a brake on the action of the committee, but since he was left out, well informed members on the Republican side are of the opinion that what financial legislation comes up this session will originate in the Senate.

Furthermore, it is common talk that word has gone out that everything must be out of the road in the matter of legislation by the middle of or, at the most, the end of April, and it would seem to be a safe guess that there will be little legislation as possible.

Many Tariff Measures.

Tariff measures galore have been put into the mill, almost all, of course, by the minority, but none of them seem to feel there is much chance of getting them considered.

Because of the President's recommendation on the matter, there is much sentiment in favor of the removal of the duty on wood pulp and white paper, and every member in the House has had more or less pressure brought to bear to favor such action, but members of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Payne and Mr. Dalsell, do not seem to think there will be any such measure reported out of their committee this session.

Minority members will seek to make an issue of it for campaign purposes, but from present indications the majority will continue to "stand pat" and open no loop-hole for an attack on the entire tariff schedule.

FLOOD MAY BE CHAIRMAN.

Friends Say He Can Head Democratic Congressional Committee.

The friends of Representative Flood, of Virginia, dispute the claim being published broadcast to the effect that Representative Lloyd is the overwhelming choice of the Democratic Congressional Committee.

They point out the fact that there will be but thirty-eight members of the committee who can participate in the selection, the members from those States which have no Democratic representation in the House being chosen by the committee after the chairman is elected. Of the thirty-eight members who will vote it is hardly expected that Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Bowers, or Mr. Flood will cast a vote; hence this leaves thirty-five as the highest possible vote. Nine of these are Senate members, who have yet to be chosen, and no one knows who they will be. A canvass by the friends of Mr. Flood, it is said, reveals the fact that there are at least eighteen House members of the committee who are either not committed to Mr. Lloyd or have not been selected by their delegations, so that there are twenty-seven who are not committed to Lloyd.

Mr. Flood is taking no part in the fight to have himself chosen. Mr. Flood is not a new hand at the game of politics. It was he who organized the campaign for Senator Martin for re-election to the Senate from Virginia when his opponent was Gov. Montague. That primary fight was one of the finest political struggles of recent years, and the large majority by which Senator Martin defeated Gov. Montague, in which he carried every Congressional district, is attributed by Senator Martin himself to have been due in no small degree to Mr. Flood's work.

WILLIAMS FATHERS BILL.

Responsible for House Measure to Make Islands Free.

Representative Williams, of Mississippi, the leader of the House minority, has come forward and acknowledged the paternity of the resolution relating to Philippine independence, which went into the box in the House Thursday last anonymously.

The resolution reads: "That it is the sense of Congress that independence ought to be granted to the inhabitants of the Philippine archipelago, and that to that end the State Department be requested to negotiate with such foreign powers as in its opinion need be necessary parties to the compact in order to secure an immediate neutralization of the islands. And, moreover, that it is the sense of Congress that the period of ten years ought to be amply sufficient within which to accomplish the aim of this resolution."

GOLDEN STATE MEN MEET.

California Association Gives Entertainment Tuesday Evening.

The California State Association will meet in the White Parlor of the Ebbitt House next Tuesday evening. A musical and literary entertainment will be given. Addresses will be made by Representatives Needham, Hayes, and Kahn, of California, on subjects of interest to the association.

A clarinet solo will be rendered by Mr. Thomas Corwin. Miss Lucille Smith will sing a cantata entitled "For All Eternity." Mr. John Doud will render a violin selection. Miss Margaret Silver, accompanied by Miss Anna Gallinger, will sing a soprano solo entitled "Fairest Flower of All," and Mr. A. B. Foster will give recitations.

The Largest Morning Circulation.

GRIDIRON CLUB CHIEF.



James Sharp Henry.

GRIDIRON CLUB ELECTION.

Officers Chosen for Coming Year at the Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Gridiron Club was held yesterday in the library of the New Willard. There was a large representation of the membership. The election of officers for the year 1908 resulted as follows, all being chosen by acclamation:

President—James Sharp Henry, Philadelphia Press. Vice President—Crosby S. Noyes, Washington Evening Star.

Secretary—John Shultz Shriver, Treasurer—Louis Garthe, Baltimore American. Executive committee in addition to officers—F. A. Richardson, Arthur W. Dreni, and Richard V. Oulahan.

J. Harry Cunningham, of the Washington Herald, by unanimous action, was transferred from the club's limited list to active membership.

The reports of the officers showed the club to be in most satisfactory condition, financially and otherwise.

CONSIDER FIRST OFFENDERS

Board of Charities Submits Report to the Commissioners.

Care of the Indigent Insane. Satisfaction—Erection of Suitable Detention Wards to Be Urged.

The Board of Charities yesterday submitted to the Commissioners its seventh annual report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907.

The text of this report is devoted mainly to general considerations of policy regarding charitable and correctional work as a whole in the District of Columbia, and sets forth certain definite recommendations as to future development. Appreciation of the co-operation and cordial support it has received from the Commissioners is expressed.

Probation of adult offenders is the principal feature recommended in the report, it being stated this would avoid the necessity of sending to the workhouse accidental offenders. First offenders could frequently be placed on probation, with advantage both to themselves and the community, and it is recommended that this subject receive consideration in connection with any general system of probation for adult offenders.

Attention is invited to the interesting and comprehensive report of the Board of Children's Guardians. This report gives much valuable and interesting information in reference to the subject of child-caring in the District.

The report shows that 1,300 children were under the guardianship of the board June 30, 1907, as compared with 1,394 at the close of the preceding fiscal year, an increase of twenty-six.

The board has continued to be active in the matter of finding free homes for children, and at the close of the fiscal year, of the 1,300 children under guardianship of the board, 1,140 were in free homes, and only 160 on expense.

It is stated that the indigent insane are being cared for in an adequate manner, in one of the best institutions of the country. The District pays to the Government Hospital for the Insane a per-capita rate of \$230 per annum, which, though a high rate, is probably not exorbitant in consideration of the fact that the District pays no part of the cost of erection or maintenance of buildings.

The board will urge next year the erection of suitable detention wards for insane patients at a cost of \$100,000 for the reason that this class of patients is entitled to the utmost consideration, and should not be subjected to treatment in or near a penal institution. Since the experience of other cities has shown that 25 per cent of the apparently insane recover in so-called psychopathic wards, and are thus spared the stigma of lunacy proceedings, it is clearly the duty of the board, both in the interests of humanity and economy, to urge suitable provisions for this unfortunate class of patients.

The report is signed by John Joy Edson, president; Charles P. Neill, Myer Cohen, George M. Kober, and George M. Lightfoot.

NEEDHAM SOCIETY VICTOR.

Debate Held Under Auspices of University Law School.

The Needham Debating Society won the first annual intersociety debate between the Needham and Columbian Debating societies, of the department of law, last night in University Hall of George Washington University.

The question was: "Resolved, That railroads engaged in interstate commerce be required to compensate employees for accidents occurring in the course of their employment."

The Columbian Debating Society, composed of Leon Pretzfelder, of Virginia; John D. Ellis, of Kentucky, and George B. McClellan, of Hawaii, argued for the affirmative, and the Needham Society, composed of J. E. Baker, of Wisconsin; John T. Kennedy, of Pennsylvania, and Charles A. Sunderlin, of Nebraska, for the negative.

Charles A. Sunderlin was awarded first honors and George B. McClellan second honors. Hon. Ralph D. Cole, Member of Congress from Ohio; Prof. Clark, of Georgetown University Law school, and Mitchell Carroll, Ph. D., acted as judges, and George L. Ambrose, president of the Needham Debating Society, presided. While the judges were deciding on the verdict, Mr. Philip Lee Scantling, a local tenor, rendered solos.

Papers Before Society.

The Biological Society of Washington met last night at the Cosmos Club, 1200 H street northwest. A paper was read by M. H. Sullivan on "Toxic bodies arising during plant metabolism." A. H. Howell and Henry Oldys addressed the club on topics of interest.

LOSES \$4,000 DUTIES

Government Is Mulcted by Short-weight Scale.

SUGAR TRUST MEN ACCUSED

Arrest of Minor Employees May Be Followed by More Sensational Developments—Mass of Evidence Laid Before Department of Justice—Pictures Show How Trick Is Worked.

That the government was mulcted to the extent of \$4,000 on one cargo of sugar discharged at the docks of the American Sugar Refining Company, at Williamsburg, N. Y., was the statement made yesterday in the office of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury James B. Reynolds by representatives from the Department of Justice and from the office of the United States district attorney, William J. Young, in Brooklyn.

The matter was brought up because of a visit paid to Washington yesterday by Selah B. Strong, Mr. Young's representative. He laid before the Department of Justice a mass of evidence relating to the cases pending against the employees of the sugar company, growing out of the discovery that there was in use a device for reducing the weights on the scales at the company's docks.

It developed yesterday that Mr. Young is not content to rest with these cases but is of the opinion that such a condition of affairs could not have existed for any length of time without the knowledge of some of those in authority, and it was intimated that there may be developments that will arouse more comment than has yet been made concerning the cases.

Has Pictures of Device. Assistant Attorney General Edward T. Sanford, of the Department of Justice, has had charge of the case for the government, and it was with Mr. Sanford that Mr. Strong conferred yesterday. Pictures of the scales, showing how the device was used, were shown, and it was after this conference, the visit was made to the Treasury Department.

So far, the indictments and arrests have been only of the employees and officials closely connected with the weighing, but Mr. Strong's office proposes sifting the case to the bottom before it is closed.

The photographs of the device, by which, it is claimed, the government was cheated in the weighing of the sugar, attracted much attention in the Treasury Department yesterday. The device is nothing more or less than a corset steel, so set in the scale that it exerts a slight pressure on the scale bar, lifting it so that the average loss of weight is about twenty-eight pounds to the ton.

The sugar is weighed when it is unloaded at the company's docks. Government representatives are at hand and supervise the work.

Weigh Four at a Time. Four bags of sugar are weighed at a time, and the customs duties are based on these weights. When the device was discovered the vessel unloading was the Strathgry, from Java, with a cargo of about 9,000 tons. At the rate of twenty-eight pounds to the ton, the loss to the government on that one shipment alone would have amounted to \$4,000, and if the speculation has been going on for a number of years, as is suspected, it is almost impossible to estimate the loss to the government.

Several of the company's employees are under arrest or indictment. Oliver Spitzer is under \$5,000 bond, accused of having attempted to bribe an inspector at the time the discovery was made. Thomas Kelch is under \$2,500 bond, charged with having knowingly used a fraudulent device, and Walter J. Wright, shipping clerk for the sugar company; Conrad Holter, and Fred Schwartz are charged in a special indictment with the grand jury having received money in connection with covering up the facts in the cases.

Fire Destroys I. C. Gibbs' Home.

The home of Isaac C. Gibbs, near Sixteenth and A streets, Capitol Heights, was destroyed by fire yesterday, resulting in a loss of about \$2,000.

The fire was discovered while Mr. Gibbs, his wife, and their adopted daughter were eating breakfast, and spread so rapidly that the entire structure was a mass of flames within a few minutes.

Although a number of neighbors hurried to the place and offered their assistance, they were unable to save any of the contents of the house.

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SAKS FUR COMPANY.

\$30,000 WORTH OF MINK FURS at Bargain Prices

NOTWITHSTANDING an advance of 65% in MINK FURS since last season, we are in position to sell them at last season's prices. Your early inspection invited.

Ten Hudson Bay Sable Sets at Half Price

The following are all natural dark skins and very beautiful:

- 3 Hudson Bay Sable Sets, worth \$350, for \$175
- 3 Hudson Bay Sable Sets, worth \$300, for \$150
- 4 Hudson Bay Sable Sets, worth \$250, for \$125

A large stock of Mora Pony Coats and Caracals at exceptionally low prices . . .

Saks Fur Company

LARGEST DEALERS IN FURS EXCLUSIVELY IN THE DISTRICT.

Cor. 13th and G Sts. N. W.

MAY VENTILATE STREET CARS.

Health Officer Woodward Plans Compulsory System.

A bill providing for the compulsory ventilation of street cars will probably be recommended to the Commissioners, in the near future, by Dr. W. C. Woodward, health officer of the District.

In speaking of the necessity of this ventilation he called attention to a communication received from the health officer of Detroit, who reported that an ordinance was passed in that city last spring, under which it is unlawful to operate any cars, other than summer or open cars, which are not equipped with ventilators. The ventilators must not only admit fresh air, but also remove the vitiated air from the cars